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WEST BRIDGEWATER

NEWS LETTER

January 1, 1945 Number 3

GREETINGS EVERYONE:

Here we are again! Letter Number Three coming up. Once again, remember our address file--it's pretty full right now and getting more so all the time. Want to know where anyone special is or what they are doing? O.K.--just ask us and if we haven't the information on file, believe me we'll root it out for you.

Thanks, many many thanks for all the notes, letters and cards you found time to write this last month. The news items are great and any that we haven't the space to print are going into reserve for future issues.

Another thing---titles for this little monthly production are piling up. And they're good, everyone of them(but then that goes without saying, doesn't it!) Any way we don't want to make our choice til there are a lot more to choose from. If you have any new ideas, send them along.

Last of all------we want to tell you again that all suggestions are welcome. It's your paper and we want to print only what you want to read. You name it---we'll print it.

"WHAT'S THE SCORE"

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The latest news of the gallant Mohawks tells us that they have left the gridiron for the ballroom--they are sponsoring a dance at the Town Hall to raise money with which to buy jackets.

The executive committee of the Town's Bowling League have decided on a new schedule to shorten the season.

Doris Morse is engaged to Y 2/C Edward Bradbury of the Coast Guard a native of Somerville. She has been employed at M.I.T. doing clerical work, but is home at present.

Frankie Burque, Ralph Douglas and William Ames are having flying instructions. "Jo" Asack has resumed her adventures in the air.

The Town Grange elected officers recently and "Bill" Gibson,Jr. of Central Sq. was chosen Master,for the coming year.

The Sunset Avenue pupils have undertaken a duty for the servicemen who attended their school. Each individual is receiving Christmas Cards and a few words of greeting from the students.

Anne Chadwick, H.H.S. '44 is a student at Simmons College.

Mrs. Edith Alger of N. Elm Street has sold her home and gone to live with her daughter Evelyn in Ohio.

Our Town Grange is hoping to have the Golden Jubilee of North Pomona in West Bridgewater next year, because 50 years ago next March this Pomona was formed in our town. Recently a newly organized Juvenile Grange was formed and held its public installation of officers at the Town Hall.

Mr. & Mrs. George Almquist, Mr. & Mrs Francis Thomas, and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Holmberg have all recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Fongeallaz have an even better record--with a celebration of their 30th anniversary.

Joan and June Goldie work in Boston at the Old Corner Book Store.

Bruce Allen, who has enlisted in the Merchant Marines, but at the time of our writing has not been called, recently tangled with some sailors in Boston. He now is not only waiting to be called, but is also waiting for some store teeth!

The Girl Scouts deserve their share of praise for contributing to the War Effort. In addition to sending Thanksgiving favors to the Miles Standish hospital and gifts to the Merchant Marine Hospital, they are knitting an afghan for the Taunton Camp.

Deer Season is just over. The deer didn't suffer too badly but "Wic" Mignault, whom many of you know, was shot in the head and is in the hospital.

West Bridgewater was cited as one of the first towns in the area to top its quota in the War Fund.

James Blood said he had dreamed in France of shooting a deer--and behold, the dream was gratified after his return home.

Joe Pomeroy sent his mother her first orchid, all the way from the South Pacific.

After graduating from Coyle High School, Tauton, Joe Giovanoni entered the Seminary of the Lady of the Holy Cross in North Easton to study for the priesthood.

It seems that the girls are just a little partial for the Navy this year or perhaps they just like the nice warm feeling of the "pea jackets". Whichever way you put it, the girls are going crazy over them, which I suppose is all right with the Army, as long as the girls are fascinated only by the Navy Jackets and not by Navy men.

TO YOU'SE GUYS FROM US GALS

I wish the war would end right now--
I'm sick of female faces.
I want some men around again
To call and take me places.
I want to hear a good male voice--
I'm tired of high-pitched chatter.
I want the sound of size 12 shoes
Instead of high heels' clatter
I'll trade the sight of curls and bangs
For a clip that's straight G.I.
I'll swap these gals with lacy frills
For a guy with a Christmas tie.
So nail the Nazis, slap the Japs--
Give 'em the works, you hemales,
Then trot your hob-nails home again
To some mighty lonesome females.

The Senior Service Scouts recently sponsored a style show at the Town Hall. The several professional models met with the enthusiastic approval of the audience as did the scout models Nancy Bradford, Dot Dalrymple and Marilyn Coelho. After the fashions had been shown, music was furnished by an eight-piece orchestra from Middleboro, advertised as "under 18, good-looking and eligible."

SENIOR CLASS PLAY

Right--Wrong--Wrong--Wright! Yes sir, what a mix-up when the Senior Class, under the guidance of their very efficient coach, Ronald Humphrey, presented "The Right Mr. Wright", a screamingly funny farce in three acts. What a riot!

This year, on Nov. 7th, students experienced a new thrill--that of being able to vote for their candidates for the presidential chair and other offices. A mock election was held in charge of Mr. Gardner. The results were definitely Republican as far as the chief executive was concerned, the final figures being Dewey-96 and Roosevelt-40.

The young people of Jerusalem have formed a club, "Jerusalem Young Peoples Society", under the direction of Mrs. Manzer. Meetings are held from 7-9P.M. at the school, after which there is dancing with music furnished by the "Jerusalem Hill-Billies" (Henry Dancault, Darrel Manzer and Kenneth Manzer.

During Education Week the parents and teachers got together, and all the kids wished they were safe in the South Pacific on L.C.T.'s or in an advanced Paratrooper School. Oh, to be in the Army!!!!

"D I D Y O U K N O W"

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Pvt. Henry Bishop, Jr. spent an enjoyable furlough with his wife and son, who live on Crescent Stree, before reporting for overseas duty.

S 2/c William Carrigan was visited by his parents. He then reported to Waldron Field, Corpus Christi, his new base.

S2/c Edward Hackerson is now stationed in San Bruno, California.

Cpl. John Manzer is now stationed at Pratt, Kansas and filling up on home cooked foods sent by his relatives.

Pvt. William R. Brown of Bedford Street was wounded in France on November 9th and is now in an army hospital.

Kenneth Almquist now stationed somewhere in the Pacific with the Signal Corps writes his brother Bob that he is kept busy by the Jap Snipers, who make themselbes extremely annoying. In his "spare" time, Ken strings communication lines.

P.F.C. Charles G. Alden is stationed in France.

P.F.C. Rose D'Schneider is at a camp, where she works at a gas station where vehicles are fueled for going overseas.

Buddy Gummow (Earl) is hospitalized in New Guinea.

Pvt. Ralph Miles has been transferred from Anti-Aircraft to the Tank Corps.

John Pocius of the Merchant Marines has recently been home after trip to England and France. He's now on his way again.

Edward Michalowski, after being hospitalized on Saipan, is in Hawaii. He will not return to combat service and is now engaged in instruction work.

Pvt. "Geezil" Goldie sailed for England on Hallowe'en on a very famous British (name censored!) He found the port of arrival well-Americanized and the youngsters eager for gum, candy, and money.

S. Sgt. Ernest G. Rizel, after completing eighteen missions, enjoyed a well-earned rest at an English seaside resort, an Air Service Command Rest Centre Conducted by the American Red Cross.

William C. Rolfe, aviation radioman 2-c has returned to his squadron at Quonset Point, Rhode Island, after spending a fifteen-day leave home.

Charles VanDyke serving with the Ninth Air Force in France, has been promoted to the rank of Corporal.

P.F.C. Howard Goodwin is now stationed in the Pacific area.

S 1/c Alice Chaves a W.A.V.E. stationed at Arlington, Virginia, was recently home on leave.

Henry F. Woodward, Jr. gave his friends a double surprise. He came home on an unexpected furlough and was sporting a single gold bar. Without his parents knowledge, he had been attending Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia.

The last letter from Pvt. Elwood Baker was headed "Somewhere in France." Pvt. Baker is with the 10th Armored Division, which is now believed to be fighting within the boarders of Germany.

Ph.M. 2/c Chet Rossi, U.S.C.G. has made several trips to Europe on a troop transport.

Robert Veronesi has left for duty overseas. His brother Daniel, serving in the Eight Air Force service squadron, has been overseas fifteen months. Robert held the bantam weight boxing championship of his division.

S 2/c Edwin R. Piver is listed for overseas duty.

Latest recruits for Uncle Sam are Irving Steffen, Ashton Sears and Richard Baxter. Dick has been in the Aviation Cadet Reserve since last Fevruary. And sometime in December Jenny Payne leaves for boot training with W.A.V.E.S.

S 2/c Robert Morse recently visited H.H.S. with his sister Doris. Bob returned to O.G.U. December 7, in expectations of going to Radar School, but as he says, nothing is definite in the Navy.

Pvt. Elwood Hall has been assigned to the A.A.F. Training Command Radio school at Sioux Falls for training as a radio operator-mechanic.

S. Sgt. Richard O. Packard and his brother, Cpt. Ralph E. got in touch with each other through the Red Cross when they learned they were both stationed in England and had a joyous weekend discussing experiences during their two years separation.

A recent engagement of much interest is that of Marion Atwood and Russ Riply. Marion has been in the W.A.V.E.S. for two years and is a Yeoman 2/c stationed in Washington. Russ, MM 3/c, has been serving for fourteen months somewhere in the Pacific

The Dansereau family of Matfield have moved to Brockton. Ernest, George and Rita are all in the Service.

Word has just been received from Russell Hemenway that he is somewhere in the Pacific and has been promoted to Chief Machinists Mate. He wants to say "hello" to all the gang, and says he had all he could eat for Thanksgiving.

Among the newlyweds are Abrota Brott and Melvin Anderson of Kingston.

Russell Fish and Barbara Ross of Purham, Maine.

Cpl. George Brown is now married to the former Eleanor Dunn of Brockton.

"Jiggs" Lucini married the former Katherine Kingston of East Bridgewater.

Ruth Macomber is now Mrs. Julian C. Ciampa, her husband is serving with the Army in the South.

Alfred Cyr writes from the Aleutian Islands that he has many of the comforts of home. He said the local PX was like an old time general store, he even purchased a metal baby Ben clock for -- $2.50, the week he wrote the letter there were bed lamps for sale. We return manifold your Merry Christmas and a speedy return home, Alfred.

Cpl. James R. Young, we are glad to hear that you have graduated from the airplane mechanics school at Amarillo Field and we know as long as your wife, Louise (Sampson), is with you, we have no worries.

S.M. "Sonny" Chambers, when he wrote, was in hopes of an early discharge from the hospital and from his hopes were well grounded because he has been home one leave recently.

Sgt. George L. Andrews writes from England that his Bomb Group is tops in the Eighth Air Force. Why wouldn't it be with one of our best Bridgewater men in it.

2nd. Lt. Edith Murray writes that she spent the summer in North Africa but is now somewhere in Italy at a Station Hospital. It's girls like Edith that will make the Old Town stand up and salute when she comes home.

"Bill" Curtis wrote that while in Radio School in Sioux Falls he met Charlie Johnson and "Clif" Bourne. Last month Faelton Perkins, who was stationed near Stockton was shown around by "Bill", and we wonder how California is ever going to get along without our boys. Thanks for the correction "Bill", you were right, "Bill" Currie is in the Navy.

Pvt. "Ed." Erickson writes that Cpl. John Murray is stationed at his post in the Aleutians. We did enjoy your card, Ed.

Greetings to Lt. Johnny Burque and his wife in Florida.

Cpl. "Mike" Pingree wrote home that while shopping in an English City he ran across "Bill" Crowley who was doing the same. They spent several week-end passes at each others camps.

S-1/c Joseph Lewis writes that he was recently married.

Cpl. John Manzer has been to Alaska and is now in Kansas getting ready fo r a furlough soon. We do hope you make it, John.

St/Sgt. Elmer Harlow wants to trade some of the heat that Bob Post and Russ Ripley write about for some of the cold and wind where he is in Iceland. The home folks return your greetings many times. Elmer would like very much to hear from some of his old gang.

Well, everything seems to be under control here on the homefront. Even the ration books which seemed so complicated and such a nuisance at first are now handled about as automatically as the cash end of the shopping deal. And how the point system has increased the menu possibilities! When kids eat liver because it is point free and therefor to their minds somehow patriotic, who can call rationing a nuisance

And gasoline: We with only "A" books are learning again what a carefree experience a trip to town on the bus can be. H aving a chauffeur to worry about the snow and ice sure compensates for a lot of things. Best of a ll, when you go on the bus, you get right out at the store or theatre door and you don't have to get dizzy driving in circles looking for a parking space. Believe me in Brockton that is an item! Another thing--even if you can get retreads now with no red tape--it gives you a sorta smug feeling to know it's the Bus Company's tires that you are getting worn out and not your own.

Bet you'd be surprised too at how well furnaces and stoves are behaving under petticoat rule. The kindling pile is still there because believe it or not, "Mom" just doesn't let the darn thing go out like she used to when you were here to rebuild it for her! So you see you are not the only ones getting training a nd experience out of this war.

Well, Gang, that's the works for this time and if you get half the kick out of reading it that we did from preparing it, we'll be more than satisfied. Remember it is solely for YOUR pleasure and the only way we can know that you like it is for you to tell us. We'll take criticism "for or agin" us and like it--just shoot it along. What did you like? What DIDN'Tyou like? What do you miss?

And now so long until we hear from you or vice-versa because you will hear from usagain you can bet on that. And THAT'S a promise for, as you move into the New Year, we will follow you with our letters and our hearts. May some of the peace which should enfold the world at Christmas time find its way through the outer turmoil of this war and settle with you.

Harvey Scranton
Evelyn Johnson
Jim Hemenway
Bill Noyes
Fred Chisholm
Alice M. Dean
"Herb" Bryant
Warren Gardner
Nils Lindell
Charles Taylor